Claims

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A food preparation device for cooking foods or beverages

   using steam and for processing foods with a blade, the device comprising:

a housing;

a container;

at least one blade;

an adjustment valve for enabling a user to control an amount of steam; and a monitor for

enabling a user to monitor a cooking time,

the housing including a base portion that includes a cooking surface on which the

container resides when in use;

the base portion extending into a vertical portion wherein water is heated to generate

steam that flows above and into the container; and

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the container holding the at least one blade either near a top of the container or near a

base of the container; the blade being configured for chopping, dicing or processing food.

2. (currently amended) The food preparation device of claim 1, the housing further

   including a motor, a steam generator, a steam nozzle and a water reservoir,

wherein the motor is configured to control a temperature of the cooking surface; and

wherein the steam generator is configured to convert water contained in the water

reservoir into steam and to cause the steam to pass through the steam nozzle into the

container.

3. (currently amended) The food preparation device of claim 1, wherein the at least

   one blade includes a powered rotary cutter.

Remarks

There is disclosed in Kemker 5,794,524 a blade that agitates and swirls "A food

processor comprising a mixing vessel being heatable in a lower region thereof, an agitator

in the mixing vessel, a drive for the agitator, a top unit supported at an upper region of the

mixing vessel opposite said lower region of the mixing vessel...." And "there is provided

a food processor which, apart from the functions mentioned such as stirring....."

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